



GENERAL MOTORS NORTH AMERICA  
Structure & Safety Integration

November 21, 2005

Mr. Daniel C. Smith  
Associate Administrator for Vehicle Safety  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
400 Seventh Street, S.W., Room 5321  
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Mr. Smith:

The following information is submitted pursuant to the requirements of 49 CFR Part 579.11. General Motors Europe has decided to conduct a Safety Recall involving certain 2006 model year Saab 9-3 model vehicles.

This Safety Recall involves vehicles that were manufactured and sold outside of the United States. General Motors Corporation sold substantially similar vehicles in the United States. Please contact me if you have any further questions concerning this report.

Vehicles identified in this letter as "substantially similar" under the broad definition specified in 49 CFR Part 579, can have significant differences in design, performance, durability, etc. These vehicles may not be "substantially similar" except for purposes of reporting under 49 CFR Part 579.

Sincerely,

Gay P. Kent  
Director  
Product Investigations

2005-007  
Attachments

**Product Investigations**

Mail Code: 480-111-E18 • 30200 Mound Road • Warren, MI 48090-9010  
2005-0007- SAAB 9-3 579 REPORT



**GENERAL MOTORS CORPORATION****579.11 REPORT**

<b>MANUFACTURER:</b>	Saab
<b>MAKE:</b>	Saab
<b>MODEL &amp; YEAR:</b>	Certain 2006 Saab 9-3 Model Vehicles
<b>NUMBER OF VEHICLES:</b>	2,152 Vehicles (Produced from October 17 <sup>th</sup> through October 28 <sup>th</sup> 2005).
<b>ACTION TYPE DETERMINATION:</b>	Safety Recall / Decision made by the manufacturer.
<b>CONDITION:</b>	General Motors Europe has decided that a defect may exist in certain 2005 model year Saab 9-3 passenger cars. The involved vehicles may have been produced with rear axle wheel hub/bearing assemblies that were not manufactured to specifications. If one of the subject hubs were to fracture while the vehicle is being driven, the driver would hear grinding noises from the affected corner of the vehicle due to unintended contact between the brake rotor and the brake caliper. The brake caliper will retain the hub/bearing/wheel/tire assembly on the vehicle, however wheel alignment will not be controlled, and handling performance will be degraded. If feedback to the driver of noise and handling degradation were ignored, eventually the wheel could separate from the vehicle.
<b>CORRECTION:</b>	The wheel bearings on all involved vehicles will be inspected for the suspect date code and replaced with a new service part as required.
<b>DATE OF DETERMINATION:</b>	November 11, 2005
<b>ACTION COMMENCED:</b>	November 11, 2005
<b>COUNTRIES INVOLVED:</b>	Austria, Belgium, Denmark, England, Estonia, Finland, France Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Russia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland.
<b>SUBSTANTIALLY SIMILAR U.S. VEHICLE:</b>	2006 Saab 9-3.
<b>ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:</b>	All involved vehicles enroute to the United States will be held at the port of entry for inspection and correction. No involved vehicles have been delivered to retailers or customers in the U.S.